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This Is Iowa State

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This Is Iowa

by Margaret Schaeffer



No, this isn't a vaudeville revival, but the typical costumes and entertainment you can expect at an Iowa State fireside. This couple is at a fraternity costume party.

COMING to college to get an education? Of course you are, but you expect to do more than wear out the library steps while you're here.

If you're one of those fortunate people who sailed through high school with barely the flick of a book cover, brace yourself for a few changes. Every student will assure you that Iowa State is a scientific school, and that means you'll be doing some real learning that you'll be able to apply after you are graduated.

College schedules are different from high school routine. One or two days a week, for example, you might have classes from eight in the morning until five in the afternoon, while on other days you might have the entire morning or afternoon free. Because your schedule is irregular, you'll never find it monotonous.

When you arrive as a freshman home economics woman at Iowa State, you'll launch into what is called the core curriculum. This series of courses gives you a taste of all phases of home economics so that you'll have a solid background as well as a good idea of what you want for your major course of study. Your freshman lecture courses usually meet for 1 hour three times a week, while your lab courses usually meet for 2 or 3 hour periods twice or three times every week.

Of course, some of your courses will take more study than others, but there isn't such a thing as an easy course at Iowa State. However, most of the students agree that with a little skillful juggling, there's time for everything. But they don't agree on the amount of time to spend studying. It's an individual matter, depending upon how fast you work and, of course, what kind of grade point you want. It is good to plan on 2 hours of outside study for every hour of lecture. One day you may spend hours doing research on an especially good

"Come as you are" is the rule for serenades, which accounts for the pajama-garbed women who are out on their porch listening to the men sing. In a few minutes they will return the men's music with their own sorority song.



State

design for an applied art assignment, and spend only a short time on a brief reading for English. The next day, you might spend a long time preparing a theme for English and not have a single bit of outside work in your lab courses.

Will you think about activities your first quarter? If you're a smart freshman, you'll not only think about them, but join several of those open to first quarter freshmen. The Freshman Home Economics Club, Freshman YWCA, Campus 4-H Club and various music activities are all fine places to get off to a good start. You can also look into the countless other activities and organizations in order to decide which of them you'd like to join during the coming year.

Apply for Activities

There will be talk about application blanks, and you may wonder what it's all about. Here at Iowa State, in order to get a special position or office in an organization you will apply on a blank supplied by the student governing body. When these positions are open, the information is published in your daily newspaper. It's really very much like applying for a job. Practice in turning in applications is good, and you may be called for an interview on your first try. Even if you don't get results right away, it's important to keep on trying. The upperclassmen will tell you again and again that activities are just as essential a part of college as studies, and that turning in applications is one of the best ways to indicate your interest. However, the old adage, "You can't be everywhere at once" is something to remember when you get into activities, so you won't spread yourself too thin. It's best to decide on several well-chosen activities on which to concentrate your efforts.

Your weekends? Don't forget that the famous Iowa State ratio of almost four men to every woman can mean a busy program for you. There are plays, concerts, games, athletic meets and dances of all kinds. Dance or dinner exchanges are famous words here. On Friday nights from seven until eight these exchanges are held in the sororities, fraternities and dormitories. In a tailored dress with hose and flats



Portia Payseur, H. Ec. Fr., portrays a question that is in the minds of most Iowa State freshmen-to-be—should I be casual or formal? She'll need the hat for some special occasions, but should decide to bring more of the basic woollens to fit in with Iowa State's informality.

you'll enjoy these hour-long dances and the many new men you'll meet.

You will probably go to many firesides. Sometimes these informal evenings of dancing, cards and talking will have a particular theme; you'll receive clever invitations and have a chance to use some costume talent in order to dress according to the theme of the fireside. Iowa State picnics, which begin with the first evidence of spring and continue until the last leaf is gone in the autumn are favorites with all.

Going on a shopping spree? Iowa State is one of the *most informal* types of schools. If you're wise, you won't arrive with an array of dressy clothes that often end up stored on that top closet shelf. Buy and make *casual* clothes. Don't bring all those items you wear ever-so-seldom, but instead bring comfortable outfits that are easy to keep clean and pressed. You don't need a model's wardrobe, and you wouldn't have time to take care of it anyway. Cottons for spring and early fall, mix and match woolen skirts, sweaters, blouses and a few well-chosen belts and scarves will do the trick for casual outfits.

Wear Informal Clothes

Iowa State women stand up and cheer for suits. For classes they're warm and comfortable; for firesides with flats they're perfect, and with hose, heels and gloves they go to concerts, church or luncheons. For teas and dressy dances, pretty crepes are round-the-year favorites, and, of course, you'll want to be prepared for formal dances. When an Iowa winter begins, you'll be thankful if you've chosen an extra heavy winter coat, some knee socks, stadium boots

(Continued on page 13)

This Is Iowa State

(Continued from page 5)

and perhaps a pair of those fur lined zipper shoes.

You'll want enough ankle socks, lingerie and PJs (warm, red flannels for winter) to last for a week so that you won't have to spend your evenings washing clothes. Although you won't usually wear slacks on the campus or to meals, they are accepted for cold days. You will wear jeans for room clean-up, as well as on picnics.

The campus is beautiful, it's true, but you'll find it involves endless walking. You'll begin to develop a case of Iowa State legs after a few weeks of walking up Union Hill. This means that roomy shoes are a must.

Curious about dorm life? The more pamphlets and information you get from the college during the summer the more you'll be on pins and needles. It's fun and a good idea to start a correspondence with your future roommate just as soon as you learn her name and address, which will be sent to you by the director of residence. Do collect ideas and clippings for your room and prepare to fix up the first week, because after that your time can hardly be called your own.

Your housemother has a big job looking after 90 to 130 daughters. If you treat her with the respect and confidence you'd give to a member of your own family, you'll have a happy relationship. At college whenever the housemother, or any other older person enters a room, you'll remember to stand up, and if you have a friend with you, you'll be sure to introduce him.

On Friday or Saturday nights, if you hear sounds in the dormitory court after-hours, you'll dash to the windows because "It's a serenade." Everyone loves these songs by men's residence groups and to show your enthusiasm you'll clap as loudly as you can. Then on one or two nights during the year your dormitory will get a chance to reverse the procedure and serenade the men.

An end-of-the-day cup of coffee in the Union means a steep walk up famed Union Hill for most coeds. But the bridge games, bowling or just talking that awaits them in the Commons is worth the climb.



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